--- PATENT TED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Adam Lee, et al. Attorney Docket No. KOCH.56145 6-18-97 Serial No. 08/811,434 Examiner: C. Bushey Filed: March 3, 1996 Art Unit: 1724 DOWNCOMER FOR CHEMICAL PROCESS TOWER I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited

with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

6-8-98

RESPONSE

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the restriction requirement contained in the Office Action dated May 8, 1998, Applicant hereby elects the invention of Group III, claims 17-34. Applicant further elects weir species WB, illustrated in Fig. 5B, and downcomer species DB, illustrated in Fig. 7B. Elected claims 17-22 and 30-34 are readable on weir species WB and claims 17-34 are readable on the elected downcomer species DB.

Further examination and allowance of the application are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael B. Hurd

Reg. No. 32,241

June 8, 1998

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THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL AMOUNT, REQUIRED OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT, TO ACCOUNT NO. 19-2112. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.